—A clear majority of the population (over 65%) believes that the presence of foreign militants in Jammu and Kashmir is damaging to the Kashmiri cause.

—On the basis of citizenship, 61% said they felt they would be . better off politically and economically as an Indian citizen, only 6% as a Pakistani citizen, and 33% said they did not know.

—The vast majority of Kashmiris oppose India and Pakistan going to war to find a permanent solution to the situation in Kashmir and believe the correct way to bring peace to the region is through democratic elections, ending violence, and economic development.

(c) The above findings taken by an internationally renowned independent marketing research firm vindicates Government's own assessment of the ground realities in Jammu and Kashmir.

Joint patrolling on line of control

*75. DR. MANMOHAN SINGH . Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister has made a statement at the recent Almaty Summit that the Government of India was in favour of joint patrolling by India and Pakistan on the line of control in Jammu and Kashmir to monitor the flow of cross border infiltration of terrorists,

(b) whether the Minister of Defence has stated that such joint patrolling is not feasible; and

(c) if so, Government's final stand in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRl DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) Pakistan hasbeen saying that it will stop infiltration on a permanent basis and that there should be some form of international monitoring to verify whether infiltration is continuing or not.

The proposal for international monitors is neither practical nor possible.

If Pakistan is serious about implementing its commitment to stop infiltration and cross border terrorism and is desirous of proving the seriousness of its intentions, joint patrolling offers a possible mechanism for verifying Pakistan's seriousness to its stated commitment. PM has in this framework offered the proposal during the CICA Summit in Almaty.

Raksha Mantri's comments had indicated that joint patrolling was not feasible if Pakistan was not serious or willing, but India was prepared to work on it.

Bottled Water Plants

*76. SHRILAJPAT RAI:

SHRI SURESH BHARDWAJ :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS. FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of licenced bottled water plants in the country. State-wise together with their bottling capacity;

(b) whether it is a fact that bottled water of a sizeable percentage happens to be of sub-standard quality; and

(c) if so, the names of such companies and their brands, which have been found supplying sub-standards bottled water ?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has granted licence to use BIS Certification Mark in respect of 468 manufacturing units for Packaged Drinking Water conforming of Indian Standards 14543 : 1998. Besides, BIS has granted licence to 6 other units for Natural Mineral Water conforming to Indian Standards 13428 : 1998. State-wise distribution of the licensees is given in Statement *(See* below). Information regarding bottling capacity is under collection.

(b) Government has no information regarding sub-standard quality of bottled water.

(c) Does not arise.